
Minutes
Workshop Meeting
August 14, 2013

Present: Mayor Kenneth F. Neilson, Councilmen Bill Hudson, Thad Seegmiller, Kress Staheli, Ronald Truman, Jeff Turek, City Manager Roger Carter, City Recorder Danice Bulloch, Deputy Recorder Tara Pentz, Public Works Director Mike Shaw, Public Works Project Manager Lester Dalton, Community Development Director Drew Ellerman, IT Director Steve Whittekiend, IT Support Technician Kelly L. Carlson, Audience: Carla Tobler, Leo Tobler, Rex Torgenson, Stan Sawyer, Betty Sawyer, Dan Bundy, Rex Papa, Jay Pitcher, Paula Pitcher, Cody Pitcher, Kevin Jenkins, Carol Bunnell, Lee Bunnell, Aaron Hall, Jessie Hall, Irene Pollock, Kevin Pollock, Aaron Smith, Shonee Smith, Sherrie Reeder

Meeting commented at 5:00 P.M.

1. Approval of the Agenda.

Councilman Hudson made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Truman seconded the motion; which passed with the following roll call vote:

<i>Councilman Hudson</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Seegmiller</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Staheli</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Truman</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Turek</i>	<i>Aye</i>

2. Review of the board audit report.

Council reviewed the board audit report with Administrative Services Manager Kimberly Ruesch.

Council asked if in the future they could have a more detailed description of the expenses. They feel the current report is not satisfactory, as much of the information is not included in the descriptions.

3. Discussion and review of flooding damage to residents in the area of 200 West from 300 North to 150 North. Rex Torgenson, Representative

Leo Tobler stated he is one of the flood victims. He read from the Washington City Newsletter in 2004. In the newsletter it is explained there was a \$2.00 fee added to each of the utility bills for Storm Water. The fee has now been increased to \$6.00. His objective is to help the sever victims of the latest flood. This is the fourth flood we have seen in the past 8 years. On July 20 the homes experienced a flood, and some damage was done. He came down to the City office to see the City Manager, and was sent to Public Works to speak with Lester Dalton. Lester was out of the office at a flood in Coral Canyon, and it was already raining. Dalton was supposed to phone him back, and he did not hear anything. He and Rex Torgenson then decided to go up to the warm springs, and had to crawl up to the ditch. He made a second call to Public Works, and expressed his disappointment about not receiving a call. He and Mr. Torgenson went to Public Works again, and was told by Lester, the problem was created by UDOT. He then reviewed a map with Council regarding the drainage along the freeway. However, after talking with UDOT, they feel the water from the flood did not come from the freeway. He feels the flood could have been avoided if Washington City would have taken preventative measures by cleaning out the channel from debris and tumbleweeds. This channel drains a huge area above town, and should not be neglected. He also feels second flood could have been avoided, or at least slowed down. He said the City has been in and fixed about three-fourths of the problem since the flooding, but nobody has returned to finish the job. When he contacted the Mayor and Council, he was listened too, and responded too attentively. However, each time when he contacted Public Works, he was not listened too.

Councilman Turek stated he went through town the day after it happened. He would like to know what effect curb and gutter would have had with channeling this. If something like this were to happen in the future.

Mr. Tobler stated there would be no way curb and gutter could have handled this amount of water.

Councilman Hudson stated curb and gutter may have helped a small amount, but most of the damage would have happened anyway.

Rex Papa stated he live on 200 West. He reviewed some photos with Council of the flooding and the damage. He would like to feel the tax dollars they are paying and the storm drain fee they are paying would be giving them some type of insurance this could be avoided, and his investment is protected.

Dan Bundy stated the City has done a great job, but it should have been done 8 years ago, and this would not have happened. The water is coming from a 60 inch pipe, and it needs to be completed and regularly cleaned out. It has been fixed now, but it should have been done a long time ago.

Councilman Truman stated as a Council we do not want it to happen to anyone. He wanted to clarify it will not happen again.

Mr. Bundy stated the City needs to tie into the 60 inch pipe they have already installed and carry it around, and there should not be any issues in the future.

Rex Torgensen stated he has followed the drainage for the past 15 years. He gave the history of

the flooding, and the flood ditch. He has talked to the City about this, and nobody would listen to him. He was told by the City to go home. He feels it is a shame Washington City let the supervisor get away with not doing anything. The City should help these people with their repairs.

Mayor Neilson stated there are individuals here for the Regular Meeting, and he would like to let them know this Workshop is going to be extended for a bit of time.

Terry Tobler would like to know what the City can do going forward. They had a very small amount of damage, and it cost them \$500. She would like to know what the City can do to help these people out.

Brandon Buelow stated there are other areas being flooded as well. Every year for the past 20 years, his parents home has been flooded on Scenic Drive. He was not able to even get a sandbag from the City. When he got the bags he had to fill them with his own sand, because City Workers would not do it for him.

Lois Jones stated she lives on Main Street. She would like to know why if there is a storm drain her street is getting flooded.

Councilman Hudson stated he believes the storm drains got plugged on the north side of the freeway, which means the water went to the lowest point, which was Main Street.

Steven Flowers stated he has taken pictures of what has been done, and he wants to know if it is going to be maintained. He reviewed each of the pictures he has taken. He said they keep hearing the flood was an act of god, which it kind of was, but at one time, they were protected. He thinks maybe some additional catch basins should be added to help catch the water.

Carol Bunnel stated she thinks the pictures do not do the flooding justice. She would like to go on the record the City needs curb, gutter, and sidewalk. She has seen her neighbors get hit by cars, kids walking a mile to school, and they are in the road. This part of the City is getting neglected. There are so many things in the downtown the City is paying for like the dog park and the Covington Home. The older part of town is getting neglected.

Jerry Nelson stated he lives on Main Street. The water comes down Main Street, and hits 200 North and plugs up the culvert, and comes across the street and floods his home.

Kevin Pollick asked what help for those who had their homes damage will be received from Washington City.

Councilman Seegmiller stated by law they cannot give an answer in tonight meeting. If there is an issue, it should be submitted by way of claim, which is then forwarded to our insurance.

Mr. Pollick reviewed photos with the Council of his damage.

Public Works Director Mike Shaw stated we received 2 inches of rain in 30 minutes. The storm is beyond a 100 year event. All infrastructure is built to a 10 year event. We received 101 thousand

gallons per minute of storm water from the boilers. The drainage around this area was cleaned out last fall, you can actually still see the burn piles. With the flooding, there was so much water, which brought down the debris and sediment and plugged everything instantly. They watch and report and keep the drains cleaned out the best as possible. Coral Canyon received the brunt of this flood, where Washington City lost water lines, sewer lines, roads had 2 feet of sediment. When we get events like this one is nearly impossible to have everything ready. It is very difficult to gain access to the UDOT property to maintain. However, after the last event they were able to get with UDOT and do a joint project to get the area cleaned out along the freeway.

Councilman Turek asked what the process would be to pipe the drainage onto the UDOT right of way.

Mr. Shaw reviewed the storm drain areas with Council on a map.

Councilman Hudson asked for a clarification on a 100 year and 10 year event.

Lester Dalton explained the differences to Council. There is a misconception because it reflects the severity of the storm rather than the frequency of the storm.

Councilman Seegmiller stated he is troubled there is a ditch that has been installed with no place to dump too.

Mr. Shaw stated the last storm dumped so much water in such a short time, there was no way to keep the sediment from plugging off the drains.

Councilman Hudson asked if the sediment is because of the work being done.

Mr. Shaw explained it was from the past weather conditions.

Councilman Staheli asked what could have been done to help Mr. Tobler in a timely manner.

Mr. Shaw stated he did not speak with Mr. Tobler. He was unfortunately on vacation. When he got the call about the flooding he immediately left his vacation, and was out with his crew for over 20 hours straight.

Lester Dalton stated he received a call from Mr. Torgensen and responded. He went out and assessed the situation, then immediately began the process of gaining access to the UDOT right of way. They have a very lengthy process, and it is a federal offense to cut a no access fence in a right of way. The permit is required by everyone including the City. The line was cleaned out last fall, but on the UDOT side of the fence

Mayor Neilson stated the situation is what it is. The citizens can file a claim and work through proper channels. However, the damage was not because the Staff purposely wanted the homes to get flooded.

Councilman Truman stated it is not productive to point fingers, but it is productive to make the

Council aware of the situation. If the citizens are feeling like Staff is focusing more on recreation and play such as parks and trails, then the Council can re-evaluate our priorities in the budgeting process. He is definitely grateful to hear how we help our neighbors in times of these events.

Councilman Seegmiller stated he believes the Water Department is qualified, and we have smart people there. However, we allowed a situation to exist, and the City has a lesson to be learned by this.

Mr. Shaw stated they have been working for the past 9 months on a stormwater master plan, which addresses many of these issues. Now would be a good time to have input from Council on how to address these types of issues.

Councilman Hudson stated he hopes we can plan better in the future from the comments and pictures we have seen today, and do everything we can to make sure it doesn't happen again.

4. Adjournment

Councilman Hudson made a motion to adjourn the Workshop Meeting. Councilman Staheli seconded the motion; which passed with the following roll call vote:

<i>Councilman Hudson</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Seegmiller</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Staheli</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Truman</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Councilman Turek</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 P.M.

Passed and approved this 28th day of August 2013.

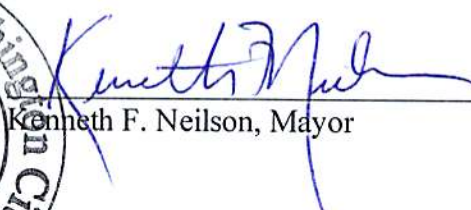
Attest by:



Danice B. Bulloch, CMC
City Recorder



Washington City


Kenneth F. Neilson, Mayor